



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor Application of: Shelton et. al.

Serial No.: 10/796,176

Group Art Unit: 1711

Filed: March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2006

Examiner: Saira Raza

For: LOW MOLECULAR WEIGHT CELLULOSE MIXED ESTERS AND THEIR  
USE AS LOW VISCOSITY BINDERS AND MODIFIERS IN COATING  
COMPOSITIONS

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE**

In Response to the Office Action mailed on December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2007, entry of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-66 are presently under consideration by the Examiner, and new claims 67-80 were added to the application in the amendment filed on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2006.

In response to the Office Action mailed on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2006, Applicants elected with traverse Group I (Claims 1-44), which was drawn to cellulose mixed esters.

The Examiner also required selection of species in the Office Action mailed on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2006. Applicants elected with traverse Claims 32-44 from Group A; Claims 47 and 66 from Group B; leveling, rheology, and flow control agents from Group C (additives); and metal as the substrate in Group D. New claims 67-71 and 77-80 belong to the species restriction categories set by the Examiner.

In the Office Action mailed on December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2006, the Examiner stated that the applicants had not included a listing of all claims readable upon the elected species.